

Descriptions of a few supposed new species of North American COLEOPTERA.

No. 2.

BY JAMES H. B. BLAND.

BEMBIDIUM WINGATEI n. sp.

Piceous, tinged with dark rufous; antennæ and legs rufo-fulvous.

Hab. Pennsylvania. (Coll. Ent. Soc. Phila.)

Body piceous. Head dark rufous, smooth and shining; palpi yellowish. Antennæ rufo-fulvous, hairy, more than half the length of the body. Thorax subcordate, blackish, very smooth and shining; the anterior and posterior margins dark rufous. A well impressed longitudinal dorsal line; base with a few scattered punctures and having on each side a deep rounded impression; posterior angles rather prominent. Elytra oblong, piceous tinged with rufous at base and apex, shining; disk flattened, with two dorsal punctures on the third stria of each elytron, the anterior puncture situated before the middle and the other at the posterior third; striæ neatly punctured, well impressed at base, becoming obsolete at tip, interstices slightly convex, impunctured. Beneath dark brown, shining; abdominal segments reddish-brown, paler towards the apex. Legs rufo-fulvous. Length $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

Collected near Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, by Dr. J. D. Wingate, and presented by him to the Society.

HELOPS GRACILIS n. sp.

Elongate, black tinged with cupreous; antennæ with the apical joint as long as the third joint; elytra striated.

Hab. New Jersey. (Coll. Ent. Soc. Phila.)

Body elongate, black tinged with cupreous, shining. Head densely punctured, black; front profoundly impressed. Antennæ black, apical joint robust and as long as the third joint. Thorax densely punctured, slightly convex and somewhat narrowed in front, with the sides rounded, a shallow depression on the middle of the lateral margins. Scutellum rounded at tip, black, smooth and shining. Elytra wider than the thorax, elongate, sides parallel, gradually rounded at tip; striæ entire, rather finely impressed, neatly and regularly punctured; interstices smooth and flat. Beneath black, shining, finely punctured. Legs black. Length $4-4\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

This species was collected by myself in Atlantic County, New Jersey. It is allied to *H. venusta* Say, but the thorax is not quadrate, and the elytral striæ not so deeply impressed; the form of the antennæ is the same.

SAPERDA FAYI n. sp.

Brown, thorax with a lateral, longitudinal white stripe, and the elytra with two basal, a median dorsal, and two subapical white spots; sides of pleura and abdomen white.

Hab. Ohio. (Coll. Ent. Soc. Phila.)

Female.—Cinnamon-brown; punctured, and having an erect, scattered, black pubescence. Head rather sparsely punctured, with a small white spot on each side of the vertex immediately behind the antennæ; mouth slightly cinereous. Antennæ black, the third and following joints densely clothed with cinereous scale-like pubescence. Thorax with an elevated, longitudinal dorsal line; on each side of the dorsum a rather broad longitudinal white stripe, and on each side, immediately above the anterior legs, an acute-triangular white spot pointing anteriorly. Legs black, densely clothed with cinereous scale-like pubescence; coxæ brown. Elytra more densely and deeply punctured than the rest of the body, and having a slight gloss; at the base of each elytron, a slightly divergent, short, white vitta, sometimes interrupted posteriorly and apparently continuous with the white vitta on each side of the thorax; on the middle of the disk of the elytra a large, elongate, confluent white spot, divided in the centre by the suture; at the posterior fourth of each elytron an ovate white spot close to the suture, but not confluent with it; tip slightly margined with cinereous. Sides of the pleura and abdomen broadly white, beneath cinereous-brown. Length $6\frac{3}{4}$ lines.

Male.—Differs from the female as follows:—Smaller and more slender; general color dark rufous-brown; the antennæ are nearly as long as the body; the thorax and head are rufous; the white markings of the thorax and elytra, although similarly situated, are much less developed and sometimes obsolete. Length 5 lines.

The ♀ of this species differs from the ♀ of *S. cretata* Newman, (a specimen of which is also in the Cabinet of the Society,) by the smaller size,—*cretata* being rather more than 8 lines long,—and the more slen-

der and parallel form, by the presence on the elytra of the basal short white vittæ, and the shape and position of the other white spots, the middle spot of *cretata* being large, broad, and somewhat elongate, emarginate at each end and not confluent with the suture, but forming a distinct spot on each elytron; while *Fayi* has a median, dorsal, elongate spot, confluent with the suture by which it is divided; the posterior white spots on the elytra of the latter species are ovate and close to the suture, while those of *cretata* are large, irregular, contracted within, and situated as far from the suture as the lateral margin; and by the white color on the sides of the abdomen being broader than in *cretata* which has the lower margin of the white sides deeply indented at the anterior part of each segment, giving it a strongly serrate appearance.

The white markings of this species, as well as of *cretata*, are composed of appressed hair-like scales.

I have examined two pairs of this beautiful species (a pair in the collection of Dr. Samuel Lewis), both collected by Mr. H. T. Fay, of Columbus, Ohio, by whom the species was first discovered, and to whom it affords me much pleasure to dedicate it. The Society is indebted to Mr. Henry Ulke, for the fine pair from which the above description is taken.

ACMÆOPS INCERTUS n. sp.

Body blackish; anterior margin of the thorax, lateral margins of the elytra and the femora, except tips, reddish.

Hab. Virginia. (Coll. Ent. Soc. Phila.)

Head black, densely punctured, slightly sericeous; sockets of the antennæ reddish-yellow; parts of the mouth black. Antennæ three-fourths as long as the body, somewhat flattened, punctured, blackish, brownish towards the tip, rather thickly clothed with pale sericeous pubescence; fourth joint shorter than the third, the fifth broader at tip than the other joints and as long as the second and third put together. Thorax blackish, sparsely and finely punctured, densely clothed with yellowish pubescence; narrowed in front, sides angulated; anterior margin prominent, red; disk rather broadly impressed anteriorly and having on each side a smooth shining space. Scutellum black, punctured and transversely impressed at tip. Elytra twice as wide as

the base of the thorax, black, deeply punctured, the punctures becoming finer and more dense towards the apex, sides parallel, gradually rounded at tip; humeri prominent; lateral margins not extending to the tip of the elytra, reddish-yellow; a slight elevated longitudinal line on the middle of each elytron, not quite reaching either the tip or the humerus. Beneath black, subsericeous. Legs blackish; femora, except tips, reddish; tibiæ and tarsi tinged with reddish. Length $4\frac{1}{4}$ lines.

This may possibly be an extreme variety of *A. bivittata* Say, but the thorax in front is not so much constricted as in that species. It was collected in Hampshire Co., Virginia, and presented to the Society by Dr. Thomas B. Wilson.

NOTE.—Having submitted several of the insects described by me in the pages of these Proceedings to Dr. John L. LeConte, for examination, he expressed a doubt in regard to the legitimacy of *Desmocerus elongatus* (Vol. 1, p. 269), believing it to be nothing more than a deeply stained specimen of *palliatius*. He recommended the specimen to be well soaked in benzine and ether. This was accordingly done, and upon examination his surmises were found to be correct,—the insect having recovered so much of its color as to place the question beyond a doubt. The Doctor also determined that my *Cyclocephala lurida* is nothing more than a variety of *C. immaculata*. As I have not at my command sufficient material for a satisfactory comparative examination of the insects, I must give up the species, although I do it with much doubt.

I am not at all surprised to see that Dr. LeConte, in his "List" p. 50, lately published by the Smithsonian Institution, has made *Cychrus Ridingsii* Bland, a variety of *Andrewsii*. When I undertook to describe the insect, I was well aware that this was his opinion, as I had been informed that he had compared the insect with his *specimen* of *Andrewsii*, and had pronounced them one and the same. Having come to a different conclusion, after comparing it with *seven* specimens of *Andrewsii* (four in the collection of the Society and three from the cabinet of Dr. Lewis), I did not hesitate to describe it as a new species,—and it gives me pleasure to say that the question has been set at rest, very unexpectedly, by my friend Mr. H. Ulke of Washington,—

Mr. Ulke having been so fortunate as to capture *several* specimens (identical with my type) in the neighborhood of Altoona, Penn., this summer;—and what is more to the purpose, I am authorized by that gentleman to say that he considers it a good species, and that he has pointed out to Dr. LeConte wherein it differs from the allied species of the genus.

As this is a matter of some importance to me—a neophyte in the Science of Entomology—is it asking too much of Dr. LeConte to take an early opportunity of giving my bantling its proper place among its brothers and sisters in the beautiful Cychrus-family?

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Descriptions of several supposed new species of CYNIPS, with remarks on the formation of certain Galls.

BY H. F. BASSETT.

The gall insects described in this paper were, with some other species, reared from galls collected during the past year in the vicinity of Waterbury, Ct.

As I have not had an opportunity to compare mine with the named species in any collection, it is possible some of them may have been described before.

Descriptions of several other species are withheld until another season shall give me opportunity for further observations on their habits.

QUERCUS RUBRA. *A smoothish, club-shaped, woody knot, four inches long, and an inch and a half in diameter at the upper and largest end, completely encircling a branch half an inch in diameter.*

This gall was cut from a very young and thrifty oak, April 11th. The flies were then fully grown and began to appear in less than a week. No other galls were noticed at the time, but now (Oct.) there are several of this year's growth,—some larger and others much smaller than the one described. The new galls were fully grown the middle of June, but no larvæ could be detected then. The larvæ are now, however, well developed.

There are hundreds of other oak trees of the same species near this one, but I have not been able to find any similar galls upon them.